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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/690,605

10/23/2003

Sundaresan Ramamoorthy

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EXAMINER

HOANG, DANIEL L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2136

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/690,605

Applicant(s)

RAMAMOORTHY ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel L. Hoang

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/23/03, 5/25/05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/25/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

~~10-16~~  
Claims 1- 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Li et al., US.

PGP No. 20040193912, hereinafter Li.

**As per claims 1, 10, and 18, Li teaches:**

A system for implementing a policy in a network, said system comprising:

a device-agnostic policy implementation;

*[see paragraph 26] "Security policies are centrally stored in a policy repository. The data format of the security policies is in an intermediate format that is translated to formats that can be consumed and enforced on each of the security-enabled devices of the network."*

a plurality of network devices, at least two of said devices being dissimilar; and

*[see paragraph 27] "Security-enabled devices are any processing devices capable of enforcing security policies, such as, but not limited to, routers, network hubs, network bridges, switches, gateways, clients, servers, stand alone intelligent appliances, computing peripherals, and the like."*

a plurality of device translators, each device translator corresponding to a respective one of said plurality of network devices, at least two of said device translators being dissimilar, each of said plurality of device translators translating said device-agnostic policy implementation into corresponding device-specific implementations.

*[see paragraph 28] "One or more policy decision translators interact with the policy repository to acquire, distribute, or push security policies to the appropriate security-enabled devices over the*

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*network. The policy decision translators include logic to convert the intermediate data format of the security policies to needed data formats that can be used by each of the security-enabled devices.*

**As per claims 2 and 13, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation is selected from the group consisting of firewall, Virtual Private Network, Java 2 Enterprise Edition Application, and custom operating system.

*[see paragraph 20] "A PEP 113 can be an application or a device, such as a server, firewall, router, or any other computing device accessible over the network."*

**As per claims 3 and 14, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation implements a policy selected from the group consisting of access control, quality of service, backup, and availability.

*[see paragraph 21] "The PFP 120 includes integrated feedback information obtained from intrusion detection systems (IDS), vulnerability scanners, and the like, which can all be PEPs themselves."*

Intrusion detection systems perform functions of access control.

**As per claims 4 and 12, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein said device translators are represented by Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) code.

*[see paragraph 17] "the policy translators are implemented as Extensible Style Sheet Language Transformation (XSLT) applications"*

**As per claims 5 and 11, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation is Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

*[see paragraph 17] "The policy translators are implemented as Extensible Style Sheet Language Transformation (XSLT) applications, which use one or more Extensible Style Sheets (XSL) to render the security policies represented as XML in the policy repository."*

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**As per claims 6, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 3, wherein said policy is represented by Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

*[see paragraph 14] "The security policies are stored in a relational database in a native Extensible Markup Language (XML) format."*

**As per claims 7 and 15, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Command Line Interface (CLI) code.

*[see paragraph 21] "Pieces of the PFP can communicate in IDMEF, SNMP, or any other CLI or protocol required by a security-enabled device within the network."*

**As per claims 8 and 16, Li teaches:**

The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Application Programming Interface (API) code.

*[see paragraph 30] "Different components of the PFP are designed to communicate with the CLIs, APIs, and/or protocols recognized by specific security-enabled device applications."*

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Young, US PGP No. 20050160361.

**As per claims 9 and 17,**

The Li reference has been discussed above. Li does not expressly teach:

The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Java code.

Young teaches:

*[see paragraph 57] "adaptation can be invoked via different programmatic paradigms (e.g., API, CLI) and can be invoked on a variety of different platforms including, but not limited to, a JAVA platform, an XML platform, a COM platform and an ODBC platform."*

Java is a general purpose high level programming language with a number of features that make the language well suited for use in the World Wide Web. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art which the subject pertains at the time of the invention to modify the Li reference to incorporate Java code in order to enable a common security policy configuration across heterogeneous enterprise networks.

## **CONCLUSION**

The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to methods and systems for managing security policies.

US PGP No. 20030172368 to Alumbaugh, which is cited to show a method for autonomously generating heterogeneous data source interoperability.

US PGP No. 20020099790, to Mosher, which is cited to show a system for providing convergent network services.

US PGP 20050015439, to Balaji, which is cited to show data integration.

US PGP No. 20040117452, to Lee, which is cited to show XML-based network management system for configuration of management of heterogeneous networks.

US Pat. No. 7058637, to Britton, which is cited to show enterprise application integration.

US Pat. No 6854123, to Lewallen, which is cited to show mapping standard APIs to user interface APIs.

\* Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


**Hand-delivered responses** should be brought to

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulaney Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314


\* Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel L. Hoang whose telephone number is 571-270-1019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Robertson can be reached on 571-272-4186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Daniel L. Hoang  
11/10/06

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11/12/06